

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-5 and 11-14 remain in the application for further prosecution. Claim 1 has been amended.

§ 103 Rejections

Claims 1-5 and 11-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,225,466 to Akao ("Akao") in view of JP61032743A ("JP '743").

Pursuant to the Interview Summary dated October 21, 2003, and fax correspondence dated October 23, 2003, the Examiner indicated that the above amendments would place the claims in condition for allowance.

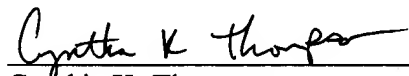
Conclusion

It is the Applicants' belief that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance and action towards that effect is respectfully requested.

If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the number indicated.

Respectfully submitted,

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